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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NET INSIGHT AB [SE/SE]; Ingenjörsvägen 3, S-117 43 Stockholm (SE).

(72) Inventors; and

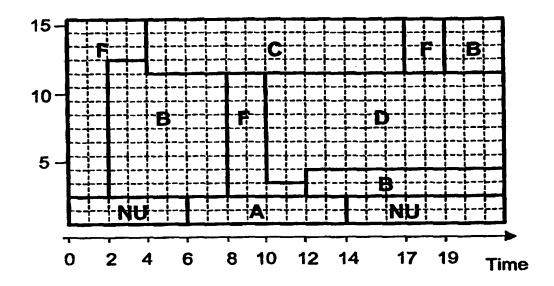
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DANIELSON, Magnus [SE/SE]; Kyrkvägen 3 A, S-182 74 Stocksund (SE). LIND-GREN, Per [SE/SE]; Maria Prästgårdsgatan 12, S-118 52 Stockholm (SE). WAHLUND, Thomas [SE/SE]; Hammerstavägen 134, S-122 60 Enskede (SE).
- (74) Agent: AWAPATENT AB; P.O. Box 45086, S-104 30 Stockholm (SE).

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(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR ALLOCATING TIME SLOTS TO CIRCUIT-SWITCHED CHANNELS



(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to methods and apparatuses for allocating time slots to circuit—switched channels established to comprise one or more respective time slots in a recurrent frame of a time division multiplexed network. According to the invention, a time slot allocated to said channel is associated with a selected level, of at least two available levels of priority. Decisions as to whether or not to deallocate said time slot from said channel is then based upon a comparison of said selected level of priority and a level of priority associated with a request for a time slot for another channel.